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2. Roxbury, Feb. 15, 1874.

Dear Johnson:

This in reply to your last letter:—

1. I did not issue any separate prospectus for the Liberator from the one I issued with reference to printing the Paper at Washington, of which I have now no copy, but which was probably inserted in William Goodell's Investigator, and perhaps one or two other papers.

2. The reason why I did not continue in partnership with Benjamin Lundy, after my imprisonment, was that we both saw that it was out of the question for us to think of securing sufficient patronage for the weekly publication of the Genius, the subscription list of which had badly damaged by my demand for

immediate and unconditional Emancipation. It became only barely possible for Lundy to keep the paper afloat monthly, in a reduced form, and published quite irregularly - printed sometimes in one place, and sometime in another, according as he could get means and find opportunity in his anti-slavery pedestrian excursions.

3. You wish to know just what my plans were, "as formed while in Prison". Seeing that pecuniary necessity forbade the continuance of our partnership, I made up my mind to deliver anti-slavery lectures at the North, should I get liberated from Prison, which, for a time, was quite uncertain; but I do not remember, nor do I think, that the idea of starting the Liberator occurred to me until my return to Boston. You know I first contemplated publishing it at

Washington; but Friend Lundy spiked my gun (in no unfriendly sense) by immediately removing the Genius to Washington — a very fortunate circumstance for me and the Liberator. I certainly was actuated by no desire to make the Liberator take the place of the Genius, or to diminish the circulation of the latter; but, supposing the Genius would continue at Baltimore, (monthly) I did desire to have the Liberator at Washington on account of its more radical character. But, of course, if the Experiment had been made, it would have quickly failed.

Your introductory number is well written. Proceed, with a blessing!

Ever yours,

W. L. G.

To —

Oliver Johnson —